HW. copy of Review on the way

November 18, 1973

EDITOR
New York Times Book Review
The New York Times Company
229 West 43d St.
New York 10036

Dear Sir:

I have spent the past six years of my life researching the assassination of President Kennedy, and I have conclusively established that Lee Harvey Oswald was not the assassin, as I document in a book which will be published next fall. I can assure you that David Belin's book, November 22, 1963, claiming to "prove" Oswald's guilt and reviewed in today's Book Review, is a fraudulent representation of the evidence. I base this judgement on more than the actual evidence establishing Oswald's innocence.

Mr. Belin has cla imed that he was entirely unbiased when he worked as an investigator for the Warren Commission. However, the evidence is that before he began his investigation, within two months of the assassination, Mr. Belin presumed that Oswald was guilty. He wrote a secret memorandum on January 30, 1964, before he or the Commission had heard a single word of sworn testimony, in which he asserted: "In determining the accuracy of Oswald, we have three major possibilities: Oswald was shooting at Connally... Oswald was shooting at both Kennedy and Connally...Oswald was shooting only at Kennedy..." Furthermore, there is persuasive evidence that Mr. Belin subborned perjury from a witness in an effort to place Oswald at the source of the shots as postulated by the Commission; this evidence was presented in an article by Sylvia Meagher in the Texas Observer of August 13, 1971.

Two years ago I had a very lengthy correspondence with Mr. Belin in which I put to him so many of the questions the Warren Report left unanswered and in which I asked for an accounting of many of the gross inaccuracies and misrepresentations contained in the Report. Mr. Belin has threatened to sue me if I ever disclose the contents of this correspondence, so I must respect his peculiar wish for secrecy. However, I can state that Mr. Belin failed to answer any of my questions, and continued to make assertions contrary to the facts.

I deeply regret that Mr. Belin has chosen to further distort the historical record and that this nation's press still seems willing to give credence and the air of respectability to a man who has done what Mr. Belin has, that is, to use the term so relevant today, to participate in a cover-up.

Sincerely,

Howard Roffman
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